



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Joanne Sturges, Acting Executive Officer  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Auditor-Controller

At its meeting held March 28, 2006, the Board took the following action:

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Supervisor Burke made the following statement:

"The United States Government has declared April as 'Sexual Assault Awareness Month.' The Los Angeles Commission on Assaults Against Women (LACAAW) has declared April 19, 2006 as 'Denim Day' in Los Angeles County.

"Both events are intended to draw attention to the fact that rape and sexual assault remains a serious issue in our society, and injurious attitudes about rape and sexual assault allow these crimes to persist and allow victims/survivors to be revictimized.

"'Sexual Assault Awareness Month' and 'Denim Day' were also instituted to call attention to false impressions and misinformation about rape and sexual assault. The problem that many in our society remain disturbingly uninformed with respect to issues of assault and forcible rape and the importance of this issue is underlined by statistics indicating that the crime of rape increased by 1.4%, despite a decrease in other forms of violent crime (Preliminary Uniform Crime Report, Federal Bureau of Investigation, 2004). The annual cost of rape—\$127 billion—dwarves that of larceny, murder, or burglary (U.S. Department of Justice, Victim Cost & Consequences: A New Look, 1996). Approximately one in six women are raped during their lifetime (U.S. Department of Justice, 2000), and youths under 18 account for about 44% of all reported rapes (Sex Offenders and Offenses, Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice, 1997).

"With proper education on the matter, there is compelling evidence that we can be successful in reducing incidents of this alarming and psychologically damaging crime.

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“The members of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors strongly support the efforts of LACAAW to educate persons in our community about the true impact of rape and sexual assault in Southern California.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Burke, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, unanimously carried, the Board took the following actions:

1. Proclaimed April 2006 as "Sexual Assault Awareness Month," and designated April 19, 2006 as "Denim Day”;
2. Urged everyone to wear jeans and attend "Denim Day" observances in their area on April 19, 2006 to help communicate the message that "There is No Excuse and Never an Invitation to Rape”; and
3. Instructed the Auditor-Controller to work with the Los Angeles Commission on Assaults Against Women to arrange the printing of "Denim Day in L.A." information on employee check stubs for April 2006 asking County employees to support "Denim Day in L.A." by wearing jeans on April 19, 2006 to help communicate the message that "There is No Excuse and Never an Invitation to Rape.”

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Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor  
Chief Administrative Officer  
County Counsel

